

No International High School for Amman after all

AMMAN, March 4 (JT). — Hopes that were raised this week for the establishment of an international high school in Amman have been dashed. When the deadline for deciding about the future of the project came up last night, the school was still sadly short of pupils. Mr. Paul Smith, who has been in charge of the project told the Jordan Times tonight that the school might still come into being next year, but there was no possibility of going ahead for September 1978.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جورن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية «الراي»

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AMMAN, SUNDAY, MARCH 5, 1978 — RABIE AWAL 25, 1398

Yamani confirms limit on light crude production in Saudi Arabia

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia, March 4 (R). — Saudi Oil Minister Sheikh Ahmad Zaki Yamani today confirmed that his country had decided to place a ceiling on the production of light crude oil for 1978. In a statement to Saudi newspapers published today, Sheikh Yamani said the ceiling -- limiting light crude to 65 per cent of total production -- had been discussed over the past two years with the Arabian American Oil Company (ARAMCO). "It is surprising that such a routine measure be given so much publicity," Sheikh Yamani said, referring to a report published in Middle East Economic Survey (MEES) last week.

Price: Jordan 50 fils; Syria 50 piastres; Lebanon 75 piastres; Saudi Arabia 1 riyal; UAE 1 dirham; Great Britain 25 pence.

Uneasy reaction to Smith's agreement

SALISBURY, March 4 (R). — Bomb blasts sounded across Salisbury today, causing no casualties but apparently symbolising opposition to the agreement signed yesterday in Salisbury between Premier Ian Smith and three black leaders.

The explosions prompted a major security operation in the Rhodesian capital although the damage caused by the bombs was small.

After three months of often-stormy negotiations, yesterday's agreement has set the scene for the formation of a transitional government with a small black majority designed to lead the country to one-man, one-vote elections and the creation of a black-ruled Zimbabwe on Dec. 31.

The interim government is expected to take office within two weeks under provisions that would make Mr. Smith one of four equals with the three nationalists. All would take turns at leading the nation in the predictably tough days ahead. Meanwhile in New York, U.N. Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim said yesterday that the agreement signed in Salisbury did not solve Rhodesia's problem and he predicted that at the guerrilla war would go on.

In London, British Foreign Secretary David Owen launched what appeared to be an urgent attempt to avoid any outbreak of civil war between Rhodesian blacks.

He urged the two guerrilla leaders and the two leading moderate nationalists to appear before the United Nations Security Council in its forthcoming debate on Rhodesia. Dr. Owen has repeatedly insisted that the patriotic front must be involved in any worthwhile settlement.

In Washington, the State Department said the United States and Britain were working closely together to achieve a genuine transfer of power as soon as possible.

Robert Mugabe and Joshua Nkomo, leaders of the guerrilla armies fighting to overthrow the Smith government, yesterday conferred in Mozambique on the implications of the agreement, which a spokesman said had been "signed by puppets and murderers."

Informed sources in Maputo said there was strong speculation that the joint leaders of the Patriotic Front guerrilla alliance were studying ways of intensifying the bush war despite the prospect of majority rule in Rhodesia. The three black nationalist leaders who signed the Salisbury agreement, Bishop Abel Muzorewa, the Reverend Ndabaningi Sithole and Chief Jeremiah Chirau, announced yesterday they would travel to Europe and the United States in a bid to win international support for the agreement.



His Majesty King Hussein chats with (l-r) U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton, U.S. Ambassador in Amman Tom Pickering and an American aide during a meeting in Amman on Saturday. (JNA photo)

Austrian president's visit to Amman will strengthen bilateral relations, says Viennese envoy

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — Austrian President Rudolf Kirchschlaeger arrives here Sunday on a four day official visit at the invitation of His Majesty King Hussein.

Non-resident Ambassador to Jordan Franz Parak told Jordan News Agency that this visit will strengthen relations between Jordan and Austria.

Austria's position vis-a-vis the Middle East situation, Mr. Parak said is based on United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338, recognition of Palestinian legitimate rights, Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab lands and the recognition of the rights of the states in the region to live in peace within secure recognised borders.

Austria, he went on to say, is willing to participate in financing and implementing a number of projects in the five-year development plan especially in the fields of electricity, railways, irrigation, agriculture, animal wealth and chemical projects. Austria can provide Jordan with technical help in carrying out industrial projects because of its advanced knowledge in the field of small and medium industries, a thing which Jordan needs.

Jordan and Austria also have thriving cultural relations evident in the increasing numbers of Jordanian students joining the universities there. Mr. Parak added that scholarships will be increased to cover various fields of training for Jordanians.

Jordan and Austria signed an agreement for economic, industrial and technical cooperation in 1977.

In an interview with Reuters, also today, Mr. Parak said his country was helping to bring stability to the Middle East. There were 600 Austrian soldiers

forming part of the United Nations disengagement forces on the Golan Heights, he said. Mr. Parak also said Austrian Chancellor Dr. Bruno Kreisky was behind a meeting between President Anwar Sadat of Egypt and Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres when President Sadat was in Austria last month.

After Dr. Kirchschlaeger leaves for home on Wednesday a two-day conference of Austria's ambassadors in the Middle East will be held here.

According to Mr. Parak the ambassadors will discuss the political situation and review Austria's relations with the countries to which they are accredited.

Palestinians fortify Lebanese village after driving out Israelis

By Gavin Bell

MAROUN AL RAS, Lebanon, March 3 (R). — Palestinian and Lebanese leftist guerrillas have set up a new stronghold in this south Lebanese village after evicting an occupying force of Israeli-backed rightists.

During a tour of the hilltop village, which overlooks Israeli settlements less than two kms. away, I was shown two armoured vehicles said to have been knocked out in the fighting yesterday.

Palestinian officials said the joint forces had attacked the hamlet a few hours after it had been occupied by rightists supported by a dozen tanks and armoured cars.

In the nearby port city of Tyre, the officials displayed a Sherman tank knocked out during the assault. Military sources said the tank had been modified to Israeli specifications.

Scores of civilians gathered to admire the trophy, but they were thrown into a sudden panic when an Israeli Skyhawk swooped low overhead.

The plane did not return, but others were spotted making passes over the border area. Weapons said to have been left by the rightists in the village included automatic rifles, heavy machineguns and mortars, some of them bearing Hebrew markings.

Local residents said the civil militias had previously ignored Maroun Al Ras, but the Palestinian-leftist guerrillas showed no signs of quitting the village today.

Some of them were setting up sandbagged positions, while others were storing ammunition in abandoned houses.

The military sources said the move was likely to be viewed with concern by Israel, because of the village's commanding position above the border settlements.

Atherton's quest for declaration of principles tops talks with King Hussein

By a Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN, March 4. — The shuttling American Mideast mediator, Assistant Secretary of State Alfred Atherton, held nearly four hours of talks with top Jordanian officials here today which centred on his efforts to come up with a declaration of principles of a Middle East peace.

Mr. Atherton's spokesman tonight described the elusive declaration of principles as "a basis for broadening the negotiations" to include other parties, notably Jordan and Syria, and he said the declaration of principles was needed to form the "framework" for subsequent negotiations for a comprehensive Middle East peace agreement.

Mr. Atherton gave Jordan "a detailed analysis and description" of his efforts to obtain agreement on the declaration of principles, spokesman George Sherman told reporters.

The Atherton delegation issued a statement here tonight saying that the United States seeks an "overall settlement" to the Arab-Israeli conflict which must resolve "all the issues, including, of course, peaceful relations, withdrawal from occupied territories, secure and recognised boundaries, and the Palestinian issue in all its aspects."

statement issued here tonight was intended as a general report on Mr. Atherton's activities here today, and was not a reflection of negotiating positions taken by parties to the Middle East conflict.

Mr. Atherton held a one-hour meeting with His Majesty King Hussein at the Royal Hashemite Court and a 45-minute meeting with Crown Prince Hassan, as well as a lengthy two-hour talk with Chief of the Royal Court Sharif Abdul Hamid Sharaf this morning.

Mr. Atherton leaves here for Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, Sunday afternoon, after which he returns to Cairo and occupied Jerusalem before returning to

Washington late next week to prepare for the visit there of Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin, due to start on March 14.

Following is the full text of the statement issued by Mr. Atherton after his talks here today: "Assistant Secretary Atherton had a very good talk with His Majesty about his mission. He particularly appreciated this opportunity to have a thorough and wide-ranging discussion with His Majesty on the whole complex of issues involved in our continuing efforts to achieve a comprehensive settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Assistant Secretary re-

ated to His Majesty President Carter's promise to redouble American efforts to help the peace efforts move forward. Assistant Secretary Atherton's mission is a demonstration of those efforts toward an overall settlement. He emphasised to His Majesty the American conviction that the settlement was all seek must resolve all the issues, including, of course, peaceful relations, withdrawal from occupied territories, secure and recognised boundaries, and the Palestinian issue in all its aspects. The Assistant Secretary looks forward to continuing this dialogue with His Majesty, and to hearing his ideas as the mission goes forward."

Ethiopia dismisses chance for negotiated settlement with Somalia

General report

Mr. Sherman cautioned against interpreting phrases in the statement too closely, and declined to comment on whether the use of the phrase "the Palestinian issue in all its aspects" is a regression from the wording "legitimate rights" of the Palestinians used in the joint American-Soviet statement of last October. He said the

NAIROBI, March 4 (R). — Ethiopia said today there could be no negotiations to end the war in the Horn of Africa until Somali forces withdrew from Ethiopian territory.

Maj. Berhanu Bayih, foreign affairs chief of the ruling Ethiopian military council, the Dergue, told a press conference at Nairobi airport: "With Somali troops on our territory, negotiations are not acceptable to Ethiopians. I think the world should realise what sort of people we are. We will fight to the last man."

Maj. Berhanu was flying back to Addis Ababa from Lagos where he delivered a message from Dergue Chairman Mengistu Haile-Mariam to Nigerian head of state Olusegun Obasanjo.

Nigeria chairs an Organisation of African Unity (OAU) committee which has tried to mediate in the war.

Maj. Berhanu said Nigeria wants a meeting of the committee but Lt-Col. Mengistu's response was that such a session "would not be fruitful while Somali troops are invading Ethiopian territory."

Maj. Berhanu said his government was puzzled by the fact that Kenya, which sides with Ethiopia, was the only African country to raise its voice against the Somali "invasion."

He alleged that several African states said in private they opposed Somali policy but would not say so publicly.

The Ethiopian official was asked about Somali President Siad Barre's visit to the Libyan Jamahiriya this week, which

led to speculation about a Libyan attempt to mediate in the war. Maj. Berhanu said: "His only support comes from the imperialists and reactionary Arab regimes."

When asked to comment on reports that the Somali president failed to win Libya over in his Tripoli meeting with Col. Muammar Qaddafi, Maj. Berhanu said: "He can't get support from any progressive country."

Maj. Berhanu said Ethiopia did not plan to try to get the OAU to condemn Somalia at its summit in Khartoum in July.

"We don't plan anything ... we will overcome this problem whether or not the OAU condemns Somalia."

He said Somali forces could be driven from the Ogaden desert in a matter of months, not years.

He denied reports from Somalia that joint forces of Cuban and Ethiopian paratroopers are making assaults against Somali positions in the Ogaden, most of which is still under the control of Somali forces. "It's a lie. We are not using paratroopers at all," he said.

He declined to comment on the extent of Cuban involvement in the war beyond saying: "As the aggressed country Ethiopia has every sovereign right to use whatever means are at her disposal."

The U.S. State Department has put the number of Cuban troops in Ethiopia at 11,000 and Col. Mengistu confirmed this week that they are operating in the frontlines with Ethiopian forces.

Somali girl volunteers dressed in light uniforms hold their rifles aloft during a recent rally in Mogadishu. (AP wirephoto)

World News Roundup ...

Saudi minister urges help for dollar

AMMAN, March 4 (R). — Saudi Finance Minister Sheikh Mohammad Ali Abul Khatl was today quoted as saying it was in the interests of the oil-producing Gulf states to bolster the U.S. dollar and prevent any possible further decline. In an interview with the daily newspaper Al Riyadh and quoted by Riyadh Radio, Sheikh Mohammed said there was no alternative to using the dollar for pricing oil and royalties. Sheikh Mohammed, who is also Minister of the National Economy, blamed the dollar's decline on economic troubles. These included the deficit in the American trade balance, inability of the Carter administration to enact energy conservation measures, and the exploitation by speculators of the international economic situation. He added that there was rivalry between the United States, Japan and West Germany, and urged the three countries to place ceilings on the value of their currencies.

Iraqi embassy in Brussels bombed

BRUSSELS, Belgium, March 4 (AP). — A bomb damaged the Iraqi embassy located in a residential suburb of Brussels at 1 a.m. today, police reported. No injuries were reported. The entrance and many windows of the building were smashed as well as windows of neighbouring houses. Police closed the building and posted guards. An investigation is underway, but no group claimed responsibility for the attack.

PLO claims responsibility for Tel Aviv explosion

BEIRUT, March 4 (R). — The Palestine Liberation Organisation last night claimed responsibility for an explosion in Tel Aviv and pledged to continue stepping up military operations inside the Jewish state. The report, from the Palestinian news agency Wafa, said that stepped-up operations in Israel were an answer "to those who call for surrender" a reference to supporters of President Anwar Sadat's peace initiative towards Israel. According to reports from Tel Aviv earlier yesterday a married couple were killed in the blast. Wafa did not specify how many had been killed.

Daoudi back in Damascus

DAMASCUS, March 4 (R). — Dr. Adib Daoudi, adviser to Syrian President Hafez Assad, returned here yesterday after delivering messages to leaders of Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates. Another envoy, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Abdul Karim Addi, left here Thursday to deliver similar messages to the leaders of the Libyan Jamahiriya and Algeria. Official sources said the messages dealt with the latest Middle East developments and the outcome of President Assad's talks with Kremlin leaders in Moscow last week.



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JORDAN TIMES

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Grow, trees, grow

What with the usual talk of Middle East peace in the air, and the declarations of all that our common concern is a better future for the people of the area, we are happy to tip our cap this week to those hundreds of Jordanian parents and children who took the matter into their own little hands and did something concrete about providing a better future for us all by planting a forest at Yajouz, just behind the Sports City, off the back road to the airport.

The effort of the Friends of the Children Club is doubly worthy. First, it provides a constructive and healthy change of pace in the life of the young urban child in Jordan who is, sadly, we think, growing up in too much of a television culture. It's a fine thing to go out and plant a tree now and then.

Second, we are particularly pleased by the event because it shows the kind of initiative that can be taken by private groups in the country, providing a healthy contrast to that lazy spirit that too often asks the government to provide everything, including children's forests. We understand that the young trees were provided for the Yajouz forest by the Agriculture Ministry, as will, no doubt, other practical assistance to see the forest through its first precarious years.

This is an example that should be emulated by other private groups in Jordan, in a spirit of challenging the government by showing it what can be done by the initiative and care of groups of citizens here and there. Another good example in this area is the effort now underway to establish a full-fledged international high school in Amman.

It is the lesson of history that countries become great because of the dynamism of their citizenry and the applied talents and concern of free individuals. The Yajouz children's forest is a small example of that very big concept.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

AL RAI Saturday said the U.S. Roving Ambassador Alfred Atherton came to Amman well-aware that Jordan is not prepared to join the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations in the light of the present circumstances.

Mr. Atherton came to Amman after visiting Egypt and Israel more than once, in an attempt to find out a common formula for a declaration of principles for a peaceful settlement when he knows that Israel's talk about a declaration of principles is only part of a campaign of deception aimed at gaining time... Mr. Atherton, the newspaper adds, returned to the Middle East, when he knows quite well, that the required declaration of principles is enshrined in the United Nations resolutions; but the problem is Israel's refusal to commit itself to them.

Al Rai goes on to say that when Mr. Atherton knows why Jordan was not ready to join the Egyptian-Israeli negotiations, he would, no doubt, realise that Israel's non-compliance with the peace requisites is the only stumbling block on the road of progress towards a just and lasting peace in the area. This is because it sticks to occupied Arab territory and refuses to recognise the Palestinians' rights.

It follows, Al Rai says, that the problem is not in Amman, Cairo or Damascus, nor in any other Arab capital, but in Israel itself.

AL DUSTOUR says that the Israeli Prime Minister, Menachem Begin seems to have taken upon himself the tasks of inventing justifications that might give legitimacy to the illegitimate NO's which he holds as a pretext to refuse withdrawing from all occupied Arab territory and recognising the national rights of the Palestinian people.

The invention was his interpretation that the U.N. Security Council's resolution 242 does not apply to the West Bank...!

This interpretation, the newspaper adds, is a near insult to the Arabs and to the world as well.

Probably it was this futile quibble by Mr. Begin that made President Jimmy Carter, the other day, reiterate emphatically in the National Press Club in Washington, the necessity of complying with the principles of resolution 242 as a basis for achieving peace.

Mr. Begin's exegesis on a resolution taken unanimously by the world community ten years ago is but unreasonable and baseless, and serves only to impede the chances of peace in this part of the world, the newspaper says.

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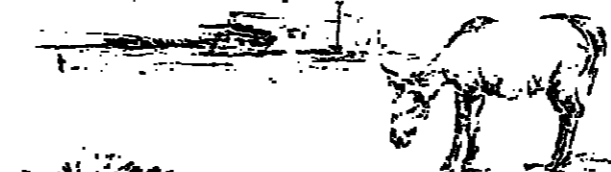
at the University of Jordan Library

from Sunday, March 5, at 4:00 p.m. and daily through March 8, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

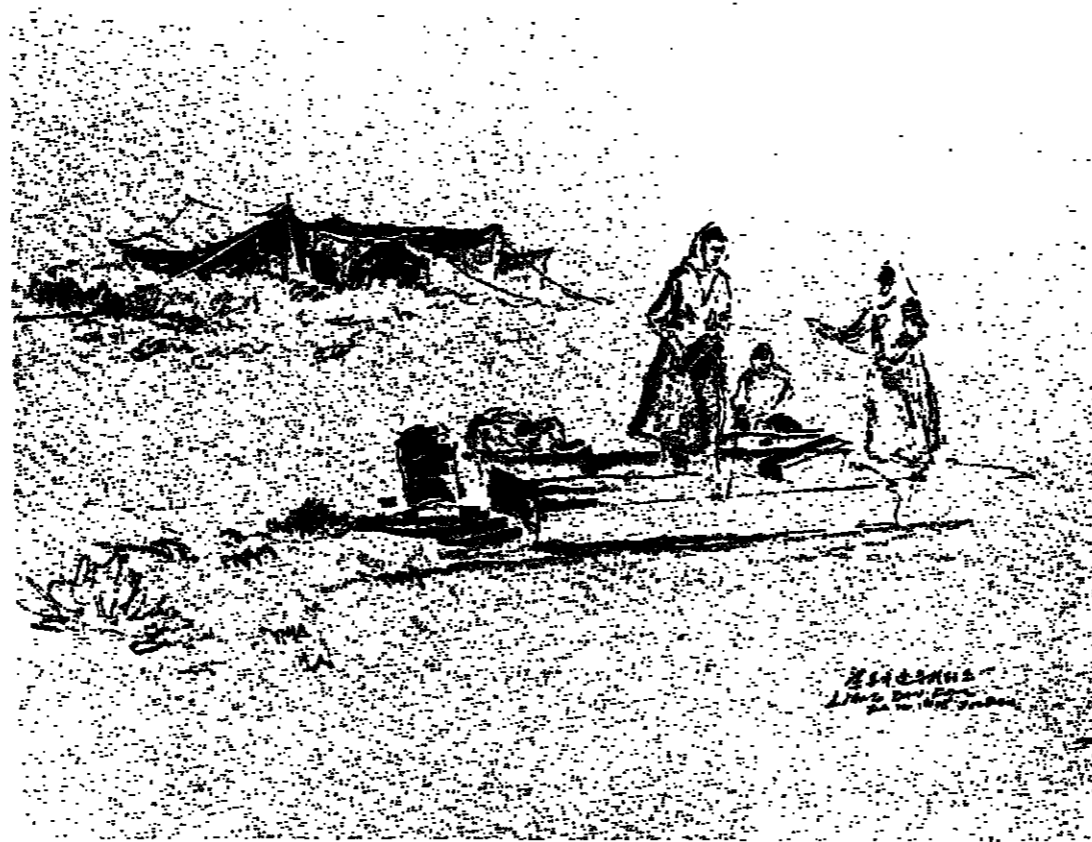
Books on display include the following subjects: Agriculture, Commerce, Economics, Engineering, Education, English, Language and Literature, Geography and History, Sciences and Medicine.

All books available from Amman Bookshop, New Insurance Building, Jabal Amman, Third Circle.

Noted Chinese artist seeks to capture simplicity and spiritual wealth of Jordan



These drawings are the work of a noted Chinese painter and art educator, Liang Dan-fong, who has been in Jordan this week as a guest of the Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities to bring her special talents to bear upon the visual wealth of this country. Her one-week stay has been extended for several more weeks, as she produces tens of drawings, sketches and watercolours, many of which are on display in the exhibit that opens Monday at the University of Jordan Alumni Club. The exhibit lasts for three days. In Tuesday's newspaper, the Jordan Times will carry an in-depth interview with Liang Dan-fong and her comments on how she sees Jordan through her artist's eyes.



WHAT'S GOING ON

Children's Theatre

The Haya Arts Centre is presenting a play, based on the Arab folklore figure of Joha, every day at 4:00, running through next Friday. The play, entitled "Joha and His Donkey" is in Arabic, and should be enjoyed by children and adults alike.

Art Exhibit

An exhibition of paintings by Chinese artist, Lian Dan-fong, opens on Monday at the Jordan University Alumni Club. The works presented are on a Jordanian theme, and the exhibition runs through Wednesday the 18th.

PERSPECTIVE

Women's Magazine of Jordan

ask for it in your favourite Bookshop

N O W

ANNOUNCEMENT

The ELITE STEAK HOUSE announces that the way leading to it, for the time being, is through Jabal Luweibdeh up the road passing by Lozmilla hospital, as the road by Firas Wing is temporarily closed for repair.

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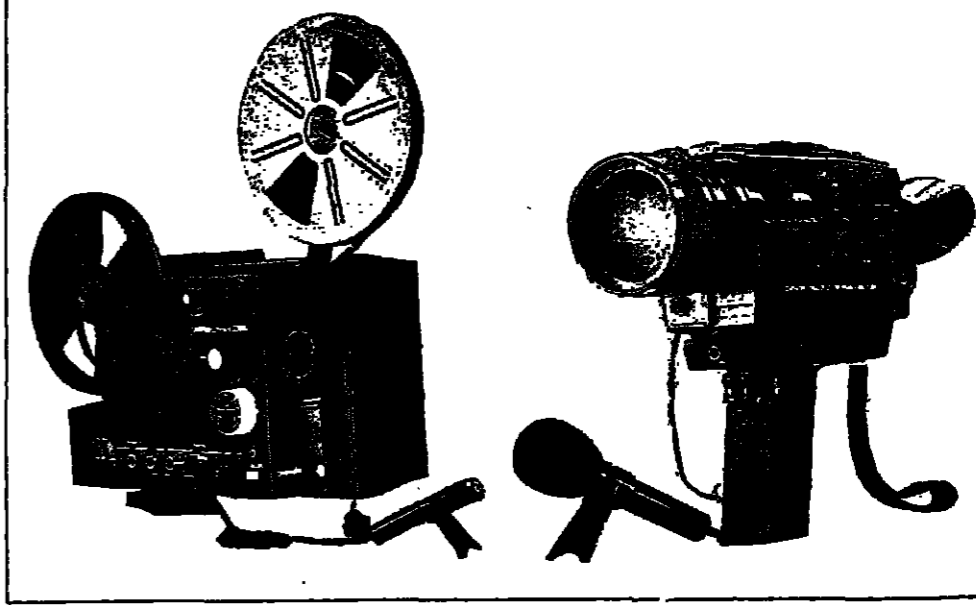
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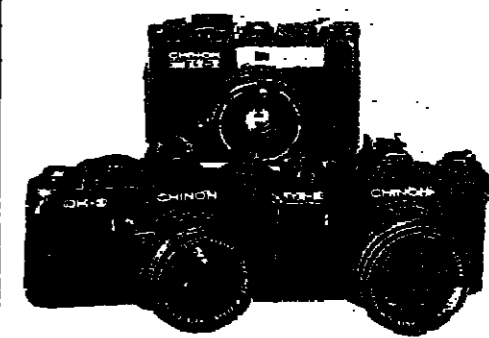
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شينو

CHINON



National News Roundup

Princess Basma discusses Queen Alia fund with Badran

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — Her Highness Princess Basma today visited the Prime Ministry where she met the Minister Mudar Badran and reviewed with him matters related to the Queen Alia Fund for Social Work. A meeting was also attended by the fund's administrative director in America and Europe.

TCC Director flies home

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — Mr. Mohammad Shahed, the General Director of the Telecommunications Corporation and the Vice-Chairman of the Arab Space Communications Corporation's Board of Administration, flew home today after representing Jordan at meetings of a sub-committee of the Arab Space Communications Corporation which ended its ten-day discussions in Kuwait yesterday.

New Supply Ministry Under-Secretary appointed

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — A Royal decree was issued approving the appointment of Mr. Mohammad Al Saqqaf as Under-Secretary for the Ministry of Supply, and Mr. Ahmad Al Wazayfi as Director General of the Civil Service Consumer's Institute.

Iraqi magazine banned

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — The Director of Press and Publication today banned the Baghdad-based Arabic satirical magazine Al Mizmar from entering Jordan, until her notice.

More companies, ships blacklisted

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — The Minister of Finance, in his capacity as Minister of Customs, Dr. Mohammad Dabbas recently banned a number of foreign companies from operating in Jordan. The minister also ordered the blacklisting of several Norwegian, Greek and German ships for contravening, together with the above-mentioned companies, the rules of the Arab boycott against Israel.

Civil Defence chief inspects Ma'an centre

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — Director General of Civil Defence Maj. Gen. Khaled Al Tarawneh today inspected the civil defence centre at Ma'an. Meanwhile two first-aid centres were opened today at Qatana and Azraq for treating emergency cases. An ambulance will be stationed at each of the two centres.

25 per cent increase in Jordan's November exports

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — Jordan's exports increased by 25 per cent during last November compared with November, 1976. Jordan's imports rose by 4.4 per cent. Figures released by the Department of Statistics today indicate that Jordan's exports during last November amounted to JD 4,469,000 against JD 3,572,000 during November 1976. Imports were valued at JD 35,245,000 against JD 33,746,000 during the two respective months. The main exports to world countries were raw phosphate, citrus fruit, medicine, hides, wooden doors, tiles, stoves and house furniture. Main imports were potatoes, barley, maize, wheat, cement, crude oil, coffee, car tyres and spare parts, iron rods and pipes, and drilling machines.

More coordination in regional health care promised

AMMAN, March 4 (JNA). — Education Minister Abdul Salam Al Majali and acting Health Minister Abdul Raouf Al Rawabdeh today returned home from Tehran where they had represented Jordan at the five-day ministerial seminar which discussed coordinating health services and human resources development in countries around the Mediterranean.

Dr. Majali told a Jordan News Agency reporter that the seminar discussed means which would coordinate local health services, needs and human resources in each state. Resolutions passed at the end of the seminar stressed this coordination and integration in a way which ensures maximum effective medical care for members of the local society.

They also stressed the need for every state to draw up a comprehensive plan for such services to be supervised by a higher council. This council, he went on to say, has been established here under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Mudar Badran. The council includes representatives of private and public health institutions, the University of Jordan, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour, the National Planning Council and all other concerned parties.

It was also decided to form a Higher Committee for Epidemics to visit countries hit by cholera and to draw up a unified Arab health policy against it.

Dr. Majali added that it was decided to start an Arab Medical Specialisation Council which will supervise specialisation in the different fields of medicine, upgrade training, conduct exams and issue unified Arab specialisation certificates.

People and Places

By John Bonar

Shuttling journalists

Doing his own spot of shuttle diplomacy, senior executive and leading columnist for the New York Times, James 'Scotty' Reston, is in Amman this week and I understand had a lengthy meeting with His Majesty King Hussein on Saturday, within hours of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Atherton's own meeting.

Also in town is Anthony Davis, Editor of Middle East Construction. The London based monthly magazine was the first of a new breed of English language-Middle East oriented trade magazine which have sprouted in the last two years. MEC is jointly owned by IPC Building and Contract Journals and Ltd. and Building (Publishers) Ltd. Amongst the competitors who have joined the ranks in recent months and Middle East Materials and Equipment of BWS Publishers Ltd. also of England and Construction Today Middle East published by McLean Hunter of Canada.

At last!

On the local media front, the long-awaited Jordanian women's magazine, Perspective, is on the newsstands at last. The driving force behind the project, Mrs. Marina Mango, has finally accomplished her task of putting together an English-language monthly magazine for and about women in Jordan. The first issue, now on sale,

has a limited press run of 7,000. "We're going slow to see what happens in terms of reader response," she told us. If all copies sell out this month, more will be printed next month, particularly if the magazine is circulated outside of Jordan. From the look of the informative first issue, Perspective should certainly find a home in the Middle East. We wish it well.

Selling advertising...

It's the season for international space salesman to pass through town it seems with John Holmes of Times Newspapers Ltd. and Peter Gilmore of Johnston International Publishing Corp. both in town last week. Mr. Gilmore, great grandson of the founder of Johnston's was making his first visit to Amman as newly appointed Director of Advertising for Johnston's Middle East Publication, Near East Business and the doyen of specialist magazines Alam Attijarat (Business World) which has been going for twelve years.

For Mr. Holmes this is a visit to familiar pastures. He has been a regular visitor for the last year and his tour usually herald a forthcoming special supplement on Jordan in the Times of London.

...and booking it

Just back in town after a five-

ing visit to London is Foad Kamal, Managing Director of Inarad. There, he was running round Fleet Street and City media booking space for the recently formed Jordanian advertising agency's newest client, The Arab Bank Ltd. Arab Bank's new look advertisements, espousing "The trip of confidence" will be appearing in Time, Newsweek, Businessweek, Financial Times, Economist, the Banker and Middle East Economic Digest. I understand that both Mr. Holmes and Mr. Gilmore want to talk about the schedule ... which features none of their publications.

Fond farewells

Heading to their respective homes after hardworking tours in Amman are the Press Secretaries of the British and West German Embassies. First to leave will be Brian Stewart and his charming and beautiful wife Anne who will be heading for London in the Middle of the month.

Already fierce competition is going on amongst the football fanatics within the walls of the British Embassy to replace Mr. Stewart's coveted position on the oft-victorious British Embassy team.

Postponing their departure for Bonn until later in the spring, Dr. Martin Hecker and his elegant wife Anna Marie who are the proud parents of a new baby daughter.

Amman Stock Exchange Report

NAME OF COMPANY	Shares	Volume	Opening	Highest	Lowest	Closing	Last	Last
			price	selling	selling	price	buying	selling
Jordan Gulf Bank	JD 1,000	60	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	—	1.100
Jordan Bank	JD 1,000	110	1.100	1.100	1.100	1.100	—	1.100
Jordan Electricity Co.	JD 1,000	1,304	1.350	1.350	1.300	1.300	—	1.350
Jordan Cement Factory	JD 10,000	630	15.750	15.750	15.750	15.750	—	15.800
Jordan Petroleum Co.	JD 5,000	1,205	6.800	6.800	6.800	6.800	—	6.850
Jordan Phosphate Mines	JD 1,000	270	2.800	2.800	2.850	2.850	—	2.100
50 per cent of share capital paid								
Total volume traded during March 4	JD 1,000							



Welcome home

His Majesty King Hussein is welcomed home by his brother Crown Prince Hassan at Amman Airport Friday night after the King and his accompanying delegation returned from London.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

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Arab maritime firm to buy 4 oil tankers

KUWAIT, March 4 (R). — The Arab Maritime Petroleum Transport Company (AMPTC) is to buy four used oil tankers, two for crude and two for petroleum products, AMPTC General-Manager A. Sultan was quoted as saying here today.

In an interview with the monthly bulletin of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), Mr. Sultan said the OAPEC-owned company would buy two petroleum products carriers of 30,000-35,000 tons each and two crude carriers of 200,000-300,000 tons each.

Mr. Sultan said low prices in the second-hand tanker mar-

ket made this a good time to enlarge AMPTC's tanker fleet. Mr. Sultan said AMPTC did not have any plan to buy further gas tankers but said the company was considering the possibility of buying new tankers for a total of \$200 million over the next five years.

The bulletin said in an editorial comment that Arab oil exporters were being criticised

for planning to expand their tanker fleets while the oil tanker market suffered from an excess capacity of more than 100 million tons.

It considered the criticism unfair at a time when the Arab share of the world tanker tonnage was less than three per cent although Arab oil exports represented 60 per cent of the world total in 1977.

Mexico considers proposal for increased oil sales to Israel

MEXICO CITY, March 4 (AP). — Mexico and Israel have closed a three-day economic meeting efforts in quality control standards of their products with a proposed increase in Mexican oil sales to Israel from 20,000 to 30,000 barrels daily.

An agreement was signed Friday by Mexican Foreign Minister Santiago Roeb and Israeli delegation leader Igal Horowitz, Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism.

Under the terms of the agreement, Mexico would provide oil industry technology and service to Israel, as well as sulfur at Mediterranean region prices.

Israel, Mexico's second largest oil customer would help

after the United States, would sell Mexico 100,000 Mexico's trade with Europe while Mexico worked

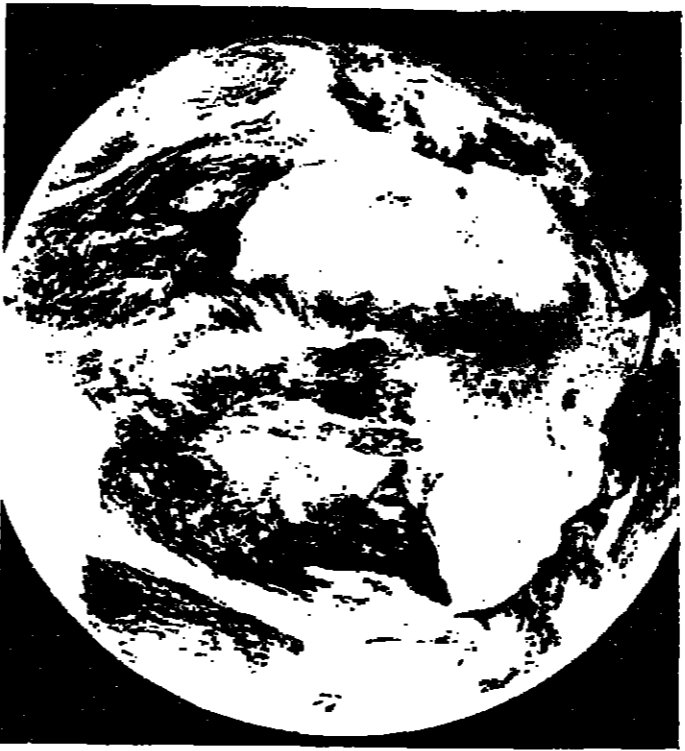
tons annually of phosphate -- an important fertilizer ingredient.

Officials also discussed the possibility of joint efforts in quality control standards of their products with a proposed increase in Mexican oil sales to Israel from 20,000 to 30,000 barrels daily.

During the meeting, Israeli officials offered Mexico technology to dye textiles by computer, professional technological training, chemical and electrical products, advanced medical equipment, solar energy technology and assistance with Mexico's fishing industry.

A major proposal of the agreement was "triangular cooperation", by which Israel would help after the United States, would sell Mexico 100,000 Mexico's trade with Europe while Mexico worked

Meteosat views earth at 36,000 kms.



This is what the earth looks like from a vantage point 36,000 kms. above the Gulf of Guinea. It is a picture relayed from the Meteosat European weather satellite to its tracking station at Michelstadt, south of Frankfurt, since last November. Meteosat is one of a network of five satellites stationed at vantage points over the equator and intended to relay a world view of weather prospects. Over a six-month trial period images received at Michelstadt are steadily being improved in quality in order to supply meteorological authorities all over the globe with better and more up-to-the-minute weather charts. The satellite will also register cloud formation, altitudes, wind patterns and surface temperatures. All suitably equipped tracking stations can dial Meteosat for data on request.

American trade deficit for January rises to \$2.4 b.

WASHINGTON, March 4 (R). — America's monthly trade deficit with the rest of the world increased in January to nearly \$2.4 billion compared with \$2.12 billion in December, the government said yesterday.

The Commerce Department said U.S. exports fell to \$10.01 billion in January from \$11.01 billion in December. Imports also dropped to \$12.39 billion from \$13.12 billion.

Analysts said both import and export figures for Decem-

ber were artificially inflated because of the end of the East Coast dock strike, so the January decline was not surprising.

There was no real change in the month-to-month pattern when the effects of the strike were discounted, said.

The big trade deficit, a large part of which was attributable to imports of oil, has been one factor cited as a reason for the recent weakness of the U.S. dollar on world currency markets.

Oil imports rose sharply last month, increasing by 12.5 per cent to almost 183 million barrels, which cost \$2.6 billion. In December, oil imports were just over 172 million barrels which were valued at \$2.1 billion.

The increase in oil imports probably the result of both severe winter weather in the eastern half of the country and the growing switch to oil industry as the result of coal strike.

U.S. miners vote on new contract

WASHINGTON, March 4 (R). — Miners cast their votes this weekend in what promises to be a close-run ballot on a new contract designed to end America's longest-ever coal strike.

Most of the 160,000 members of the United Mine Workers (UMW) union, which has halted production at half of the country's coalfields during its three-month strike, will vote on the tentative contract today and tomorrow.

Some small local union units

in Oklahoma and Arkansas cast their votes on the contract yesterday, and early indications were that negative votes were running slightly ahead of those in favor.

The contract, agreed last Friday after weeks of negotiations between the UMW and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association (BCOA), will raise miners' wages 35 per cent over a three year period.

But the tentative agreement would also charge miners for the first time ever for some of their medical costs and allow mine operators to discipline investigators of wildcat strikes -- provisions not popular with rank-and-file members.

The UMW has spent thousands of dollars on radio and television advertising to promote the tentative contract, particularly in West Virginia, where about one third of its members live.

UMW officials, who have toured the coalfields promoting the settlement, acknowledge that ratification is tough and go despite the fact that outside the industry the contract is seen as meeting virtually all the miners' demands.

The contract was negotiated under heavy pressure from the Carter administration and President Carter has warned he will take immediate and drastic action if it is not ratified.

High-level officials have indicated that such action could

come as early as Monday.

If the miners turn down agreement, the most probable course would be for the House to seek a court injunction ordering the miners to work for an 80-day cool off period. At the same time, previously assured congressional approval would be sought to allow a federal takeover of the struck mines.

The strike has caused a spread power outbacks and job layoffs in several states.

LOCAL EXCHANGE RATES

	Jordanian
U.S. dollar	308.00/100
U.K. sterling	600.00/100
W. German mark	152.50/100
Swiss franc	165.50/100
French franc	64.50/100
Italian lire (for every 100)	36.50
Japanese yen (for every 100)	130.30
Dutch guilder	142.70/100
Belgian franc (for every ten)	88.10
Swedish crown	65.50

Frozen gas has become a valuable but deadly commodity

By Ron Cocking

LONDON, (F.T.). — A number of British industrial firms without firm contracts for their natural gas supplies have found themselves suddenly cut off during recent cold spells.

This underlines the new importance of this energy source, which until some 40 years ago was considered little more than a nuisance which had to be put up with within the process of recovering petroleum.

Natural gas supplies the pressure which forces the oil to the surface in the early stages of tapping a well. After the gas pressure has gone oil has to be laboriously pumped to the service, either by re-injecting natural gas or water into the well in most cases.

In the early days, gas was simply "flared off", or burned, causing both energy waste and atmospheric pollution. In the 1920's a limited use of Texas gas for heating purposes began, when it was piped to homes and businesses close to the oilfields. In the post-war era the developed nations suddenly awoke to the potential of natural gas, and in the past 20 years it has virtually replaced gas made from coal wherever it became available.

Transportation difficulties

But many sources of natural gas, such as those in the Middle East and on the Mediterranean shore, are far away from potential markets, so that until recently much gas had to be wasted even after its potential worth had been recognised.

A technological breakthrough 20 years ago in the United States changed all that. A

method of supercooling natural gas until it became liquid was developed, which meant the gas could then be sent by sea in specially-designed tankers to anywhere in the world. In fact the first marine transport of liquid natural gas (LNG) was from the U.S. to Britain before North Sea gas came on stream.

Since that first delivery in 1959, there have been over 2,000 LNG tanker voyages, and in spite of the hazardous nature of the cargo, there has not been one accident of significance. Today LNG moves regularly between such places as Brunei and Japan, Alaska and Japan, and from Algeria to Europe.

Growing need

The growing scarcity of energy means that the demand for LNG is growing every month. Both coasts of the United States are near saturation point in terms of supply, and in California especially a severe shortage is imminent.

There are plans under way to build a new terminal north of Los Angeles to feed natural gas now coming on stream from the vast new Alaskan field into the state's pipelines.

To alleviate the problem in the Eastern United States, a subsidiary of Canadian Pacific has just announced plans to build a massive \$600m. terminal near St. John, New Brunswick, to distribute natural gas from Algeria under a 20-year contract. While most of the gas will go to the U.S., the plant is being built in Canada on Algerian insistence.

Yet another is proposed at Mossman at Fife, in Scot-

The world's most expensive tankers are now being built to carry liquid natural gas -- an immensely valuable cargo. But scientists say that if one of the ship's tanks ruptured at sea, the heavy, invisible gas would float on the surface of the sea -- and if it reached the land, even a lighted cigarette could cause a vast explosion.

land, while the Belgians are considering another large installation at Zeebrugge. There are already some 85 LNG terminal and vaporisation plants around the world, many of them in built-up areas, but the ecology lobby is becoming more and more alarmed as they proliferate.

Public worry

A public enquiry on the Scottish project has already encountered violent public objection. Witnesses have cited the disaster at a natural gas plant in Qatar, in the Middle East, two months ago, where an explosion and fire killed seven and injured another 13 people, some of them a mile from the site. The Zeebrugge project is already under attack locally, although as yet it is only in the talking stage.

To head off potential opposition to the Canadian project, the sponsors have already published details of the elaborate safety precautions that will be built in. These will include huge dykes capable of receiving the contents of an entire tank of liquid gas should it rupture, while foam installations will be on permanent alert able to blanket the area with foam at a rate of 25,000 cu. ft. per minute. The

foam will retard vaporisation of the gas, and avoid its ignition.

Gas cooling process

The whole process of moving gas from the field to the user is a very sophisticated one. At the source, the gas is cooled rapidly to a liquid, at a temperature of minus 160 degrees Celsius, shrinking a volume of 620 cu. ft. of gas to only one cu. ft. and is then pumped into freezing tanks aboard the LNG tanker.

These are specially-built vessels with double hulls, and with a minimum of seven feet of insulation between the outer hull and the gas tanks. The eight to be built for the Canadian project will be 950 ft. long and 140 ft. across the beam, and at their destination will be able to pump out 46,000 gallons per minute. The tankers will be equipped with the latest navigational equipment, and all LNG crews are specially trained. The new tankers will cost between \$180-200 m. each.

During the voyage, gas which "boils off" as vapour is collected and burned in the ship's boilers to save oil fuel. At the destination, the LNG is pumped into tanks, and then returned to gas form by heating with hot water. In the

case of the Canadian installation, efficient water from a local power station will be used. In California, it will be the warm sea water along the coast. The gas will then be pumped into a transmission pipeline.

Controversy in U.S.

Meanwhile, the LNG carriers themselves have become a big source of controversy in the U.S., which is in process of building 18 giant LNG carriers, the first of which was dedicated a month ago.

Boston is the only U.S. port where LNG is now delivered, and the Coast Guard con-

siders the cargo so dangerous that all other traffic is halted while the LNG is discharged. However, new terminals are being considered at New York, Providence, R.I. and Cove Point, Maryland.

But scientists are saying that at a major disaster could occur if a ship's tank ruptured and colourless gas which would float on the surface. If the wind pushed the gas to the land, even a lighted cigarette could cause a vast explosion, they claim.

-- Financial Times News-Features

THE Sunday Crossword

(formerly The New York Herald-Tribune Crossword Edited by Herb Etkenshaw)

MEMBERSHIP
By Marion Mosser

- ACROSS
- 1 Beneath
 - 5 Fix deeply
 - 11 From
 - 16 Cop's item
 - 21 Crystal
 - 22 Of the sun
 - 23 Motif
 - 24 With force
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 - 87 Sweet thing
 - 88 Seraglio
 - 89 Pauline's
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 - 94 Wood strip
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 - 97 Singer Vic
 - 98 School
 - 99 Machine
 - 100 Mr. Speaker
 - 101 Radiance
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 - 104 Actor Buddy
 - 105 Flight
 - 106 Duos
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 - 112 Spill over
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- SOLUTIONS OF LAST WEEK'S PUZZLES
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 5. Jack-and
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 7. Cancel
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 16. 46 To
 17. 50 Solids

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Who will get China's oil?

By John Freeman

Oil reserve estimates

SINGAPORE, (R). — China's emergence as a major oil producer has provoked a lively debate among Western analysts on how Peking intends to use its growing supplies of the much desired commodity.

The consensus of Western opinion at a big oil conference which was just ended in Singapore was that China does not intend to become a major oil exporter.

Most western oil experts believe China will export only enough oil to meet its immediate foreign currency needs. They argue that Peking's primary concern is to push ahead with internal economic expansion and this will devour most of China's projected oil production, leaving little over for export.

Suggestions that Chinese oil exports might enable Western nations to reduce their reliance on the Middle East found little support in discussions here.

Mr. James E. Akins, a former United States Ambassador to Saudi Arabia, told the conference: "To think that we can use China to break the power of OPEC (the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries) is incredibly foolish."

Western estimates of the size of China's oil reserves vary widely, but most analysts here agreed that recoverable oil is in the region of 70 to 90 billion barrels. Saudi Arabia has possible reserves of 175 billion barrels.

Information collected by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and presented at the Singapore conference put China's oil production in 1977 at 1.84 million barrels a day, compared with Saudi Arabia's 8.5 million barrels.

Given the lack of official statistics from Peking, predictions about production owe much to guesswork, but even the most conservative estimate shows Chinese oil production reaching 140 million tons annually by 1980, and 278 million tons by 1985, almost half Saudi Arabia's estimated production at this time.

Many estimates put future production figures much higher, but even at the lowest level it seems certain that China will become one of the oil-producing giants by the end of the next decade.

Japanese trade package

In recent years Chinese oil exports have been little more than a trickle. However, un-

der a \$20 billion trade agreement reached with Japan last month, China plans to export 47.1 million tons of crude oil to her Asian neighbour over the next five years.

This is part of a package in which China will provide Japan with crude oil in exchange for oil industry technology.

This deal reinforces the view that China will export oil only in return for technology needed for its industrial revolution.

But how much new technology does China require to develop its oil resources. Experts believe it must invest heavily in sophisticated equipment if it is to boost its oil production to meet rising domestic demand, as well as having enough for export.

Much of China's recent exploration is believed to have concentrated on offshore fields where the latest deep water drilling equipment will be needed, and China is already buying semi-submersible rigs from Singapore designed for this work.

Head-over-heels for a foothold

It is therefore not surprising that many Western countries are almost falling over each other in their attempt to gain a foothold in what could become the world's big-

gest market for oil equipment. There are many Western experts who believe, however, that China's reputation for self-reliance will prevent huge purchases of foreign equipment.

Mr. Paul Spetz, American oil consultant at the conference, said China can already produce more than 70 per cent of the equipment it needs for prospecting.

According to an American oil delegation visiting Chinese factories, much of the equipment was based on old American designs, but was modernised as the Chinese learned more about the latest Western technology.

Mr. Spetz said estimates of \$360 million worth of equipment sales to China since 1972 were too low because many sales were not reported.

Much recent offshore activity by the Chinese is believed to have been concentrated in the South China Sea. The Chinese are reported to have made important oil discoveries in the Gulf of Tonkin and Arroumbainan Island.

How far the Chinese will go in seeking western help to develop their oil resources remains to be seen. But for the moment the prospect of a new source of oil in an energy-starved world is excitement enough for an industry caught in the grip of recession.

مكة المكرمة

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY, MAR. 5, 1978

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A day when you can see early how to make some changes that can give a better quality of life. Make long-range plans that will give you greater abundance in the days ahead.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Plan how to gain your rightful position in the outside world and gain more happiness. A friend can give you needed advice.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) It is wise to make notes of all your fine ideas so that you won't forget them later. Use your intuition which is accurate now.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Be more sensible in dealing with family members and increase harmony. Make sure to be careful in motion today.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Contact close relatives and make plans for the days ahead. Situations arise that call for intelligent handling.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Organize your career affairs for the new week so that all goes smoothly. Follow suggestions that can be valuable to you.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You are now able to enjoy yourself at favorite activities with friends. Plan how to be more efficient in business affairs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Study new activities that add to present interests and command a greater income. Sidelast a troublemaker.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Attend the services now and in the future.

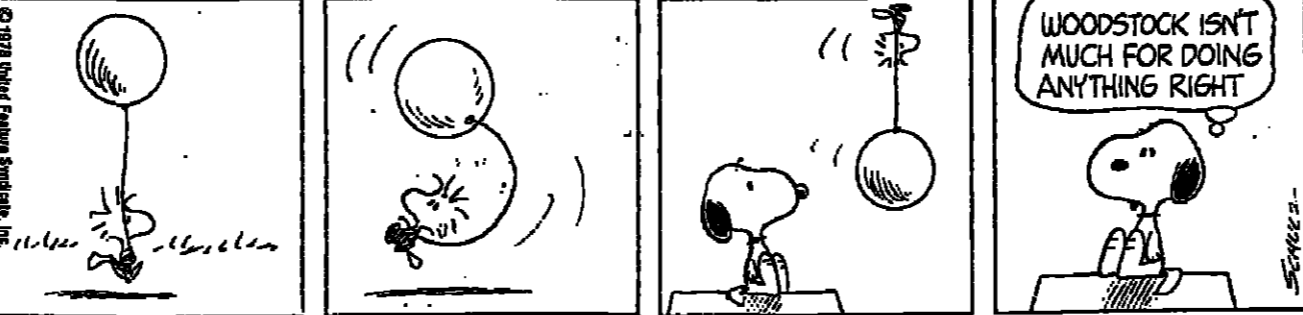
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can reach the right decision today concerning an important financial matter. Spend some time with congenials.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Analyze how far you have travelled on the road to success and know the best way to make progress in the days ahead.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Follow a more practical plan for the future and become more successful. Live for greater happiness.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Study your true wishes and figure out the best way to attain them. By being more used you can reach a fine understanding with mate.

PEANUTS



ANDY CAPP



MUTT & JEFF



THE FLINTSTONES



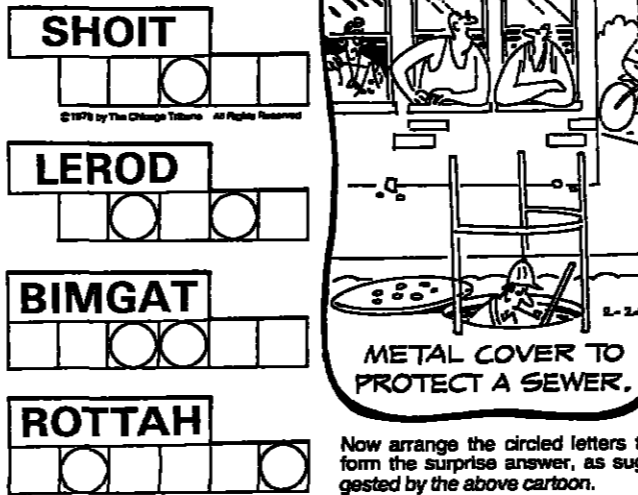
THE BETTER HALF.

By Barnes



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



Print answer here: A

Answers Tuesday

Yesterday's Jumbles: CIVIL PURGE NAUSEA EIGHTY

Answer: What to read during a power blackout - LIGHT VERSE

GORED BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1978 by Chicago Tribune

Neither vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♠ K J 7 3
♥ A K 10 9
♦ Q 10 9 2
♣ A

WEST
♠ 9 6 5 4
♥ 8 5 3
♦ K 6
♣ Q J 10 9

EAST
♠ Q 10
♥ 6 4 2
♦ 8 7 5 4
♣ 6 5 3 2

SOUTH
♠ A 8 2
♥ Q J 7
♦ A J 3
♣ K 8 7 4

The bidding:
North East South West
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass
4 NT Pass 6 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Queen of ♣.

There are times when even an expert declarer is faced with a pure guess. More often, however, he can place the cards almost exactly.

Because of the fact that he had a wealth of prime controls and good intermediates, North elected to value his hand at more than the 17 HCP it contained. Accordingly, he issued a slam invitation by making a quantitative jump to four no trump. Note that this was the only intelligent slam suggestion North could make despite his unbalanced hand—his partner had denied a decent four-card major when he failed to bid it at his first turn, and if a 4-4 diamond fit existed, it still could be uncovered later in the auction. Since South

was at the top of his range with only three-card diamond support, he obliged by bidding the slam in no trump.

West led the top of his club sequence and declarer won the ace performance in dummy. A diamond finesse lost to the king, and the nine of clubs return was won by the king as a spade was discarded from the table. Before committing himself to the spade finesse for his contract, declarer set out to learn what he could about the distribution.

He cashed three rounds of diamonds, discarding a spade from his hand. On the last two diamonds, West let go of a low spade and the ten of clubs. Next, declarer played four rounds of hearts, discarding a club from his hand. West had to hold the jack of clubs to prevent declarer from taking the fulfilling trick with the eight of clubs, so he let go another spade. East sluffed a club.

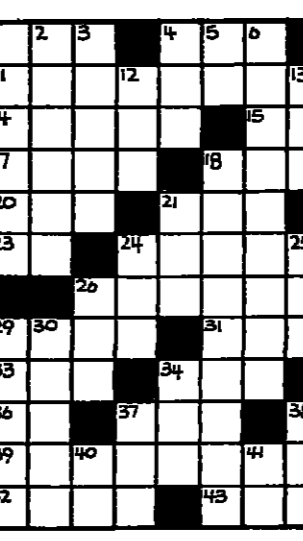
There were now only four spades remaining in the defenders' hands. Declarer crossed to the ace of spades, fetching two spades from the defenders, and then led a low spade toward dummy. West followed with a low spade. Should declarer finesse?

The answer is no. Declarer knows from the play to this point that West's last card is the jack of clubs. Therefore, East must hold the queen of spades, and it is bare. So declarer should go up with the king of spades, and the jack of spades becomes the twelfth trick when the queen drops.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1. Goddess in Latin
4. Norse county
7. Walk nervously
11. Problematical
14. Peddle
15. Diving bird
16. Sloth
17. Polynesian god
18. Explosive ending
19. Superlative
20. Man's nickname
21. Assuredly
22. Persons
23. Ocean liner, abbr.

DOWN
24. Meddles
25. Close relationship
27. About
29. Climax
31. Medieval money
32. Gram molecule
33. Father
34. —Carney, actor
35. Totem
36. Arrived
37. According to
38. River in Poland
39. Dispositions
42. Pivot
43. Time units, abbr.
44. Inspect



Par time 25 minutes APNewsfeatures 2/27

ETA AMA SUNS
LACONIC APET
ABOLISH TREE
TORE THEM ODA
ERN BASEBALL
ALD SURE
COLA INN
FEMININE SPA
AME DOR SHIP
VENT DUBIOUS
UNTO ISOLATE
STAY CHARLES

SATURDAY'S SOLUTION

DOWN
1. Early Venetian coins
2. Mother's relatives
3. Did arithmetic
4. Satisfied hunger
5. Senator Muskie's State, abbr.
6. Ecstasy
7. Egyptian measure
8. Article
9. Culminate
10. Uses a blue pencil
11. Conceit
12. Consort of Ra
13. Provisional
14. Type measures
15. Caroline Island
16. Scrap
17. Duty
18. Baseball term
19. River in Texas
20. Limestone
21. Cut blubber
22. Entrances
23. Quiz game group
24. Daybreaks
25. Potation
26. Short story writer
27. Anthropoid
28. Weight units, abbr.
29. Greek letter
30. Land measure

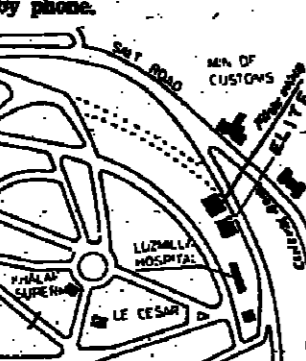
027 & 48027

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Italian party leaders hold summit hopeful of weekend agreement

ROME, March 4 (R). — Caretaker Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti today held a vital political summit with prospects for resolving Italy's government crisis brighter than at any time during seven weeks of deadlock. Signor Andreotti opened the meeting with leaders of six parties hopeful that an agreement with the left on a programme to tackle the country's economic and social problems could be reached this weekend. "It will certainly be a conclusive meeting," he told reporters last night.

The prime minister still faces strong opposition from the communists, socialists and republicans on economic policy and can expect strong leftwing pressure on controversial issues.

But political sources said that, if Signor Andreotti reached a limited agreement with the parties he could begin forming a new cabinet next week and

present a government for a vote of confidence in parliament before the Easter holiday. Signor Andreotti's talks with the party leaders were expected to last two days and could require a further meeting on Monday, the sources said. The road to a solution has been opened by the ruling Christian Democratic Party allowing Signor Andreotti to seek a limited

parliamentary alliance with the Communists — despite strong opposition from conservative elements in the party.

A pact with the left would mark another significant step towards the Communist goal of sharing power, bringing them into a parliamentary majority for the first time in more than 30 years.

But Signor Andreotti will have to tailor carefully the programme he presents today to meet the conditions laid down by his party.

The Christian Democrats have insisted that any agreement maintains full support from the parties, blocks any further nationalisation and keeps Italy committed to the Western alliance.

Their demands for measures to reduce unemployment in the underdeveloped south will get a welcome response from the Communists.

But Christian Democratic plans to hold down the rising cost of labour while raising taxes and the cost of public services will be strongly opposed.

The leftwing parties are keen to win a firm plan from Signor Andreotti to try once again to push through a bill to legalise abortion and avoid a referendum on the issue.

Another of their demands — that the police be allowed to form a union — almost certain to be rejected outright by the Christian Democrats.

Kidnapper's punishment



Pakistani military ruler Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq ordered this man flogged in public for kidnapping a minor girl. The sentence was carried out in Islamabad this week. (AP wirephoto)

Tito tells New York Times Sadat damaged Mideast peace

NEW YORK, March 4 (R). — President Josip Broz Tito of Yugoslavia, in an interview with the New York Times published yesterday, criticised Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's peace efforts, said he is worried about trends in Soviet-American relations and commented on press reports about relations between him and his wife.

Truth about Jovanka

The 85-year-old Yugoslav leader, in a two-hour interview with New York Times Associate Editor James Reston, said he would not be taking his wife, Jovanka, to the U.S. with him next week but added that their differences had nothing to do with politics.

Commenting on world press reports that his wife had mixed in politics and restricted access to him, Marshal Tito said: "I am somewhat surprised that this is being talked about in the world at all. It is not even fair, I must say."

"She is my wife, she remains my wife, she is living in my residence in Belgrade... I will go to the United States alone. She no longer travels with me, that's all."

"Is there a marriage, in which at one time or another, differences do not appear over this or that?" he asked.

He added that President Sadat did not inform him of his planned trip and, had he done so, Marshal Tito would have advised him not to go.

Too much human rights

Marshal Tito said he was disturbed by recent trends in East-West relations, especially arguments over human rights at the Helsinki conference on the Helsinki accords.

He said it was an important question, but it should not be made the test of many other critical world questions.

Yugoslavia's future

Mr. Reston said he raised the question of how Marshal Tito envisaged the future of his country after him.

Marshal Tito said: "We are doing everything we can so that nothing will change. We have established the presidency so that we may insure our-

selves against trouble when we can no longer hold that post."

Churchill and Stalin

Marshal Tito, the last of surviving World War II leaders still ruling, said he considered Winston Churchill to be England's greatest leader and how he had acted.

Of Russia's wartime leader, Joseph Stalin, he said: "I have times he appeared to be humane men, to love people (but I saw) what he had done and how he had acted."

Many people had suffered because he was convinced that (humanity) meant nothing to him, that he subordinated everything to his own notions. He had no courage, the sense of trusting people."

The two-hour interview conducted by Mr. Reston at Marshal Tito's home in Yugoslavia.

Eritreans claim control over 95% of province

Sadat criticised

On the Middle East, Marshal Tito publicly criticised Egyptian President Anwar Sadat for the first time. He said the Middle East situation was even more tangled now than it was before.

He said Mr. Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, a courageous act, did not result in success for President Sadat's plans.

"A deadlock has occurred there. By visiting Israel he has not succeeded in accomplishing anything, as it seems now. He entertained illusions, true, what he did was a very courageous act."

BRUSSELS, March 4 (R). — Eritrean guerrillas have wrested 95 per cent of their province from Ethiopian forces and need no foreign military aid to accomplish their objectives, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Eritrea (PFL) said last night.

"Our armed forces now occupy 95 per cent of Eritrean territory and we do not need any military aid to conclude our liberation struggle," PFL representative NAEI Kurdi told a press conference here.

Guerrilla forces were on the point of taking Ethiopia's main port, Massawa, on the Red Sea, and had surrounded Eritrean capital, Asmara. About 50 miles to the west, he said.

The PFL is one of the main guerrilla groups fighting for Eritrea's independence. Ethiopia is also embroiled in another war with Somalia in the Ogaden Desert to the east.

Mr. Kurdi said there were Cuban troops and Soviet advisers behind Ethiopian forces in Eritrea, and called for a "strategic" decision of the socialist bloc, voiced by Havana and Moscow.

Congress Party factions agree to form Maharashtra government

NEW DELHI, March 4 (AP).

In a sudden turnabout, the official Congress Party agreed last night to join hands with former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi's breakaway faction in an attempt to form a government in the important State of Maharashtra, a Congress Party leader reported.

However, the two parties

have not agreed on cooperating on a national basis, stressed Mr. K. C. Pant, General Secretary of the official Congress Party still sought a separate identity.

"At the moment, it's an arrangement involving one state," Mr. Pant said in a telephone interview. "Let's see

how it works out."

In Bombay, yesterday, Congress Chief Minister Vasant Rao Patil of the official Congress Party informed the support of a majority of assembly members, and him to form a government, Pant said.

The chief minister is highest political office in an Indian state and the error is a representative of central government appointed by the president.

Together, the official Congress and Mrs. Gandhi's Congress control 131 of the 288-member assembly. Patil presumably has the support of some of the independents to secure needed majority.

Sabotage caused Florida train derailment

WASHINGTON, March 4 (AP).

Sabotage caused the Florida train derailment last Sunday that released deadly chlorine gas and killed eight persons, the U.S. safety agency said yesterday.

"Our investigation has determined that the derailment near Youngstown, Florida, was caused by sabotage as a result of someone misaligning the rails at a joint in the track," said the acting chairman of the National Transportation Safety Board.

Two air mishaps in Venezuela and Spain could claim 47 lives

CARACAS, March 4 (R).

A Turbo-prop Avro airliner with 47 people aboard crashed into the sea about 6 kms. off the Venezuelan coast last night soon after take off from Maiqueria Airport, an airport spokesman said. Rescue launches rushed to the area and recovered seven bodies but there were no reports of survivors as yet, he said. The Compania Aeropostal Venezolana airliner was on a domestic flight to

Cumana, about 500 kms. east of here when it crashed.

In Santiago de Compostela, Spain, a Spanish airliner skidded off the end of the runway and caught fire while landing yesterday, but airport firemen quickly put out the blaze. Iberia Airways officials said more than 50 passengers were injured — 15 of them seriously. The super DC-8 carried 210 passengers and 11 crew members on a flight from Madrid.

Opinion polls give French left lead in forthcoming election

PARIS, March 4 (R).

The opposition Socialist and Communist Parties are holding their lead in the French general election campaign according to final opinion polls in leading newspapers yesterday.

But the issue was wide open nine days before the first ballot because the opposition parties were still unable to agree on joining forces for the decisive final round on March 19.

A poll in the daily newspaper Le Figaro gave the left 51 per cent support against 45

per cent for the combined parties of President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing's centre-right coalition.

Another Paris newspaper, L'Aurore, published a poll showing a narrower gap, with 50 per cent backing the left and 47 per cent supporting the government parties.

For months now, the polls have shown little shift in voting intentions. Apparently, all will depend on inter-party bargaining and the mood of the electorate as it develops in the week between the two ballots.



The Soviet news agency Tass issued this picture of Czechoslovak cosmonaut Vladimir Remek as he ascended the steps into the rocket which launched him, together with Soviet cosmonaut Alexei Gubarev, aboard the Soyuz-28 spacecraft into space from Baikonur, Soviet Central Asia, on Thursday. (AP wirephoto)

Soyuz, Salyut dock

MOSCOW, March 4 (R).

Soviet cosmonauts Yuri Romanenko and Georgy Grechko set a record today for endurance in space.

They have been aboard the Salyut-Six space station since Dec. 11 and at 02:36 GMT, passed the mark — 84 days, one hour and 16 minutes — set by a U.S. crew four years ago. There was no indication how long the two might remain in

space, and Soviet officials traditionally keep their space plans secret. Western experts predicted that they might be planning to stay in orbit for several more weeks.

In Houston, Texas, American space scientists congratulated the cosmonauts as they passed the mark established by astronauts Edward Gibson and Gerald Carr aboard Skylab-Four in 1973.

Hours before chalking up the longest-ever space mission, Lt. Col. Romanenko, 33, and flight engineer Grechko, 46, were joined aboard Salyut-Six by two comrades, one of them a Czechoslovak.

Capt. Vladimir Remek of the Czechoslovak air force and mission commander Alexei Gubarev, who blasted off from the Soviet Union on Thursday, docked the Soyuz-28 vehicle with the 19-ton Salyut laboratory late last night.

Soyuz-28, which makes space history by carrying the first cosmonaut not from either the United States or the Soviet Union, is the second manned mission to visit Grechko and Romanenko during their marathon stay.

Last January the system was "visited" by cosmonauts Vladimir Dzhanibekov and Oleg Makarov in Soyuz-27 who spent five days with Romanenko and Grechko, before swapping ferry vessels and returning to earth in Soyuz-26.

Tass said the four cosmonauts would carry out experiments together.

Full text of the Rhodesian internal settlement agreement

SALISBURY (AP).

Following is the full text of the settlement agreement reached here on Thursday between black and white Rhodesian leaders.

"Whereas the present constitutional situation in Rhodesia has led to the imposition of economic and other sanctions by the international community against Rhodesia and to armed conflict within Rhodesia and from neighbouring territories:

"And whereas it is necessary in the interests of our country that an agreement should be reached that would lead to the termination of such sanctions and the cessation of the armed conflict:

"And whereas, in an endeavour to reach such an agreement, delegates from the Rhodesian government (Prime Minister Ian Smith), African National Council (the Rev. Ndabaningi Sithole), the United African National Council (Bishop Abel Muzorewa), and the Zimbabwe United People's Organisation (Senator-Chief Jeremiah Chirau) have met during the last three months in Salisbury and, having discussed fully the proposals put forward by the various delegations, have reached agreement on certain fundamental principles to be embodied in a new constitution that will lead to the termination of the aforementioned sanctions and the cessation of the armed conflict.

"Now, therefore:

"A. It is hereby agreed that a constitution will be drafted and enacted which will provide for majority rule on the basis of universal adult suffrage on the following terms:

"1. There will be a legislative assembly consisting of 100 members and the following provisions will apply thereto:

"(A) There will be a Common Voters Roll with all citizens of 18 years and over being eligible for registration as voters, subject to certain recognised disqualifications.

"(B) Seventy-two of the seats in the legislative assembly will be reserved for blacks who will be elected by voters who are enrolled on the Common Roll.

"(C) Twenty-eight of the seats in the Legislative Assembly will be reserved for whites (i.e. Europeans as defined in the 1969 constitution) who will be elected as follows:

"(1) Twenty will be elected on a preferential voting system by white voters who are enrolled on the Common Roll.

"(2) Eight will be elected by voters who are enrolled on the Common Roll from 16 candidates who will be nominated, in the case of the first parliament, by an Electoral College composed of the white members of the present House of Assembly and, in the case of any subsequent parliament, by an Electoral College composed of the 28 whites who are mem-

bers of the parliament dissolved immediately prior to the general election.

"(D) The reserved seats referred to in (C) above shall be retained for a period of at least ten years or of two parliaments, whichever is the longer, and shall be reviewed at the expiration of that period, at which time a commission shall be appointed, the chairman of which shall be a judge of the High Court, to undertake this review. If that commission recommends that the arrangements regarding the said reserved seats should be changed:

"(1) An amendment to the constitution to effect such change may be made by a bill which receives the affirmative votes of not less than 51 members.

"(2) The said bill shall also provide that the 72 seats referred to in (B) above shall not be reserved for blacks.

"(E) The members filling the seats referred to in (C) above will be prohibited from forming a coalition with any single minority party for the purpose of forming a government.

"2. There will be a just declaration of rights which will protect the rights and freedoms of individuals and, inter alia, will provide for protection from deprivation of property unless adequate compensation is paid promptly, and for protection of pension rights of persons who are members of pension funds.

"3. The public service, police force, defence forces and prison service will be maintained in a high state of efficiency and free from political interference.

"4. Pensions which are payable from the Consolidated Revenue Fund will be guaranteed and charged on the Consolidated Revenue Fund and will be remittable outside the country.

"5. Citizens who at present are entitled to dual citizenship will not be deprived of their present entitlement.

"6. The above-mentioned provisions will be set out or provided for in the constitution and will be regarded as specially entrenched provisions which may only be amended by a bill which receives the affirmative votes of not less than 78 members.

"7. It is hereby also agreed that, following the agreement set out above, the next step will be the setting up of a transitional government. The prime function of the transi-

Dual citizenship

"3. The independence and qualifications of the judiciary will be entrenched and judges will have security of tenure.

"4. There will be an independent Public Services Board, the members of which will have security of tenure. The board will be responsible for appointments, promotions in, and discharges from, the public service.

"5. The public service, police force, defence forces and prison service will be maintained in a high state of efficiency and free from political interference.

"6. Pensions which are payable from the Consolidated Revenue Fund will be guaranteed and charged on the Consolidated Revenue Fund and will be remittable outside the country.

"7. Citizens who at present are entitled to dual citizenship will not be deprived of their present entitlement.

"8. The above-mentioned provisions will be set out or provided for in the constitution and will be regarded as specially entrenched provisions which may only be amended by a bill which receives the affirmative votes of not less than 78 members.

"9. It is hereby also agreed that, following the agreement set out above, the next step will be the setting up of a transitional government. The prime function of the transi-

tional government will be:

"(A) To bring about a cease-fire and,

"(B) To deal with related matters such as:

"(1) The composition of the future military forces, including those members of the nationalist forces who wish to take up a military career, and the rehabilitation of those affected by the war.

"(2) It is also hereby agreed that it will be the duty of the transitional government to determine and deal with the following matters:

"(A) The release of detainees.

"(B) The review of sentences for offences of a political character.

"(C) The further removal of discrimination.

"(D) The creation of a climate conducive to the holding of free and democratic elections.

"(E) The drafting of the new constitution in terms of this agreement.

"(F) Procedures for registration of voters with a view to the holding of a general election at the earliest possible date.

"D. It is also hereby agreed that the transitional government will comprise an Executive Council and a Ministerial Council and the following provisions will apply thereto:

Executive Council

"1. Executive Council:

"(A) Composition:

The Executive Council will be composed of the prime minister and three black ministers, being the heads of those delegations engaged in the negotiations. The members will take turns in presiding as chairman of the Executive Council in such sequence and for such period as that council may determine. Decision of the Executive Council will be by consensus.

"(B) Functions:

"(1) The Executive Council will be responsible for ensuring that the functions given to, and the duties imposed on, the transitional government by the constitutional agreement are dealt with as expeditiously as possible. It will take policy decisions in connection with the preparation and drafting of the new constitution and the other matters set out in sections B and C of this agreement and with any other matters which may arise.

"(2) The Executive Council may refer the matters set out in sections B and C of this agreement, or any other matter, to the Ministerial Council for examination and recommendation.

"(3) The Executive Council will review decisions or recommendations of the Ministerial Council and may confirm such decisions or recommendations or refer them back to the Ministerial Council for further consideration.

Ministerial Council

"2. Ministerial Council:

"(A) Composition:

"The Ministerial Council will be composed of equal numbers of black and white ministers. The black ministers will be nominated in equal proportions by the heads of those delegations engaged in the negotiations. The white ministers will be nominated by the prime minister. The chairmanship of the Ministerial Council will alternate between black and white ministers. The prime minister will nominate which white minister shall take the chair and the heads of those delegations engaged in the negotiations will nominate which of the black ministers shall take the chair in the sequence and for the period determined by the Ministerial Council.

"(B) Functions:

"(1) The Ministerial Council will operate on the cabinet system. For each portfolio, or group of portfolios, there will be a black and a white minister who will share responsibility.

"(2) The Ministerial Council will be responsible for initiating legislation and for supervising the preparation of such legislation as may be directed by the Executive Council.

"(3) The Ministerial Council will make recommendations to the Executive Council on all matters referred to it by the

Executive Council and on other matters it thinks fit.

"(4) Decisions of the Ministerial Council will be subject to a vote and subject to the approval of the Executive Council.

"3. Parliament: (A) Parliament will function during the transitional period and will meet for the first time on the day when the new constitution comes into effect and when the Executive Council is constituted.

"(1) To pass a constitutional amendment act enabling the registration of voters.

"(2) To pass the 1974-75 budget.

"(3) To enact any law or deal with any other business referred forward by the transitional government (i.e. further removal of discrimination).

"(4) To enact the new constitution.

"(5) To nominate 16 for election by voters Common Roll to eight seats reserved for whites.

"(6) The work of the House of Assembly will proceed as normal.

"7. It is also hereby agreed that independence day will be Dec. 31, 1978.

Signed at Salisbury, Third day of March, 1978.